

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 96-153-C - ORDER NO. 96-559
AUGUST 19, 1996

IN RE: Application of GTE South, Inc. and Contel) ORDER
of South Carolina, Inc. for Approval of) APPROVING
Implementation of IntraLATA 1+ and 0+) PLAN
Presubscription.)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Plan for implementation of intraLATA 1+ equal access filed by GTE South, Inc. (GTE) and Contel of South Carolina, Inc. DBA GTE (South Carolina). The Plan was filed pursuant to Order No. 96-324. The filing includes a combined 1+ equal access conversion schedule of technically capable offices in South Carolina, along with tariffs containing rates, terms, and conditions for intraLATA equal access cost recovery, PIC changes, and end-user customer lists to be effective concurrent with the initial conversion. Jointly, the Companies had requested also a waiver regarding meeting the conversion of 50% of its access lines within the six (6) months time period as set forth in the Commission's Reconsideration Order. Pursuant to Order No. 96-536, the Commission granted the requested waiver.

The Commission's Executive Director instructed the Companies to publish, one time, a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the affected areas and to provide notice to

each individual customer affected. The purpose of the Notice of Filing was to was to inform interested parties of the Company's Application and of the manner and time in which to file the appropriate pleadings for participation in the proceeding. The Companies complied with this instruction and provided the Commission with proof of publication of the Notice of Filing and proof that copies had been served on the individual customers. Petitions to Intervene were received from the South Carolina Telephone Coalition (SCTC) and United Telephone Company of the Carolinas, Inc. (United).

Subsequently, the Companies and the Intervenors entered into a Stipulation Agreement dated August 12, 1996. The terms of the Stipulation stated that GTE had made its tariff filing in this matter in order to set forth a plan that would detail GTE's proposed implementation of intraLATA 1+ presubscription service. The parties agreed that GTE did not intend by its filing to set forth a plan that would have general applicability in the industry with respect to implementation of intraLATA 1+ presubscription service. Instead, the parties agreed that GTE's plan is tailored to GTE's particular business operation in South Carolina and is intended to apply to GTE only. Consequently, as a result of the Stipulation, both the SCTC and United agreed to withdraw from participation in the proceeding. Concurrently, with the filing of the Stipulation, the Commission received Petitions to Withdraw Intervention from both Intervenors.

The Commission has examined this matter, and believes that

the Stipulation of the parties should be approved, and the Petitions to Withdraw granted.

Since all intervention in this matter has now been withdrawn, we will proceed to rule on the merits of the case. The Commission has examined the Plan as filed by the Companies, and believes that it is a reasonable methodology for 1+ equal access conversion of technically capable offices in South Carolina. We have examined also the tariffs and other proposals, and find that the Plan should be approved as filed. As has been stated, the Commission has already issued Order No. 96-536 granting the waiver requiring the conversion of 50% of GTE's access lines within the six (6) month time period set out by the Order.

Considering our Order above, we also rescind our Order Establishing Pre-Filing Deadlines, that is Order No. 96-483.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)